

TODAY'S WEATHER: Light variable winds, tending NE later; cloudy and unsettled, with occasional showers, improving later. Noon observations: barometric pressure 1013.2 mbs, 29.92 ins; temperature 16.1 deg. F; dewpoint 75; relative humidity 82%; wind direction calm; wind force, zero.

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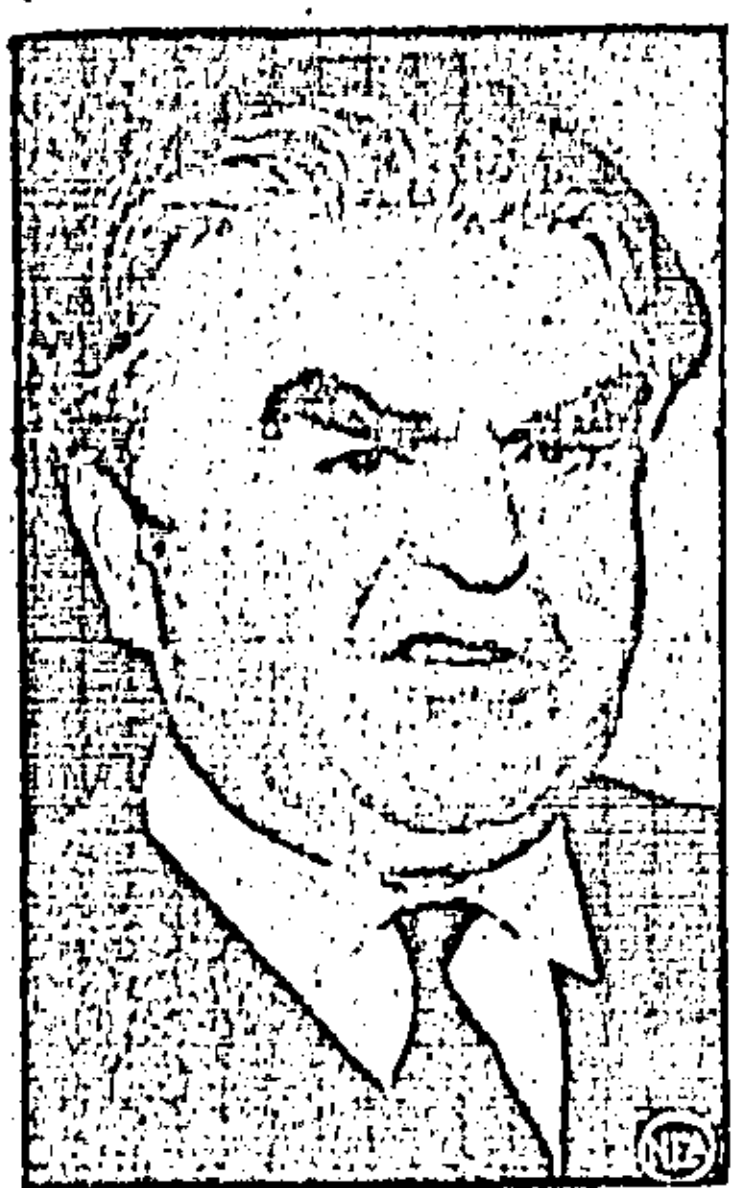
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THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1948.

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JOHN LEWIS INDICTED

Contempt Of Court Charge

Washington, Apr. 14.—Mr John L. Lewis, President of the United Mineworkers of America, went on trial here today on a charge of contempt of court for not obeying a court order to call off the recent four-week strike of 400,000 coal miners.

Mr Lewis pleaded not guilty through an attorney, who also entered this plea for the United Mineworkers on a similar charge.

Federal Judge T. Alan Goldsborough refused the plea of Mr Lewis' lawyers to reject the charges.

The hearing was adjourned until tomorrow after the Government and the defence had stated their cases.—Reuter.

MONOPOLISTIC POWER

Pittsburgh, Apr. 14.—General Motors President, Charles E. Wilson, said today that the night coal miners pension strike was an abuse of "monopolistic power" threatening public security.

Wilson said "it is time for Americans to quit quarrelling and stay at work."

"Although the miners were returning to work Wilson said there was no assurance that this monopolistic power will not be used to paralyse the nation's industry within the next few weeks."

Wilson accused labour of using Communists to accomplish their goals and said "subversive elements are using the nation's unions to sabotage production and promote social and political unrest.—United Press.

No Provisional Govt. For West Germany Yet

BRITAIN & UNITED STATES CHANGE THEIR MINDS

Berlin, Apr. 14.—Britain and the United States have scrapped their plans for an early provisional West German Government, it was reported here today, and Russia, at the same time, reaffirmed her desire for four-power currency reform in Germany.

Allied sources here indicated that the Western powers would give greater political power to German bizonal economic institutions, instead of proclaiming any provisional government before Germany goes to the polls.

The British and American Military Governors, General Sir Brian Robertson and General Lucius Clay, attended today's session of the two-power Control Board in Frankfurt, understood to be discussing German proposals on Marshall aid to Germany, coal production, and the halting of the dismantling of industries.

The Russians today failed to send representatives to the British Commission called to inquire into the Viking-Yak air collision over Berlin in which 15 lives were lost.

British representatives began the inquiry without them, after waiting 15 minutes in case they should turn up. Thirteen witnesses, all British technical experts, were to be heard.

American and French observers were present at the inquiry. Plans for a joint Anglo-Soviet inquiry have not gone forward because the Russians do not agree to the calling of American or German witnesses.

CURRENCY REFORM

A Russian official statement in today's Tagliche Rundschau, the Soviet Military Government organ, denied what it called the "provocative reports" in West German papers that the Russians had declined to discuss currency reform for the whole of Germany.

"They ain't," said the Russians, "at preparing a separate currency reform in Western Germany." Such action "will destroy the German State and plunge Germany into economic chaos," the Soviet statement declared. Russia had suggested that an all-Germany currency reform should be established as a matter of principle.

The Communist-sponsored People's Congress has notified the four Allied commanders that it intends holding a referendum of the German people on the question of

German unity at the end of next month.

It was not known here today whether the Western Allies would assent.

In Vienna, Soviet guards today relaxed their restrictions on British movements through the zonal barriers at Semmering Pass.

They let both lorries and trains pass through with only the production of the grey four-power passes, without photographs, which they had previously declared were insufficient identification.

A British convoy went through the pass after a 10-minute delay, and military trains were held up at the same place for only a few minutes.—Reuter.

REQUEST FOR AID

Frankfurt, Apr. 14.—Germany today asked the Western powers for £490 million for Bizonal aid under the European recovery programme—more than 30 percent of the total \$5,300 million (£1,325 million) allocated by the American Congress for the 16 nations taking part in the Marshall Plan.

The German request was contained in the final German draft for bizonal aid presented to the British and American Military Governors by German bipartite officials.

It was understood that the Germans had urged the commanders to increase by £7,500,000 the £237,500,000 requests for food, seed and fertilisers.

They said the increased food allocation figure was due to rises in prices.

General Lucius D. Clay, the American Military Governor, said tonight, after a meeting with the British and French Governors, General Sir Brian Robertson and General Pierre Koenig, that the future of the three Western Zones was not discussed.

The three Governors spent most of the meeting discussing the statements the French and British generals will make tomorrow at the Marshall Plan Conference in Paris.—Reuter.

WILL MAINTAIN RIGHTS

Washington, Apr. 14.—The United States would not sacrifice any of her essential rights in Berlin, Mr Robert Lovett, acting Secretary of State, said at a press conference here today.

Mr Lovett said the United States Government was in the closest contact with the Military Commander in Berlin, and would follow the line which was most appropriate to compose the recent differences between the Russian and American authorities there without sacrificing any essential rights.

He made the statement when asked to comment on the suggestion that the United States and Soviet Governments should negotiate with each other directly instead of through the Russian and American authorities in Berlin, in order to settle the present breakdown of the four-power administration there.

Mr Lovett said the flight of B-29 Superfortresses now on their way to Furstenfeldbruck, in the American Zone of Germany, was a routine training mission.

He described the rumour of flights over Italy as "flights of fancy," and denied the bombers would fly over Italy during next Sunday's election as a demonstration of American strength.

He also said there was no truth in reports disseminated by the Communists in Italy that the United States was planning to use Sicily as a base for aeroplanes and atomic weapons.—Reuter.

No News Of Stranded Passengers

Shanghai, Apr. 15.—Mystery still surrounds the fate of more than 500 passengers of the steamer Wan Lee, who landed in Communist area in Shanghai after their vessel grounded and sank on Monday.

Up to this morning, no news has yet been received of the whereabouts and safety of the passengers. Throughout yesterday, the offices of the Fuming Steamship Company, owners of the ship, were packed with relatives of the passengers. Shouting and crying, they asked for more information about the ship, and her passengers, and demanded that the company officials take immediate steps to rescue the stranded passengers.—Reuter.

On-The-Spot Truce Commission For Palestine

SECURITY COUNCIL PROPOSAL

New York, Apr. 14.—A draft resolution calling for the creation of a special on-the-spot commission to supervise a truce between the Arabs and Jews in Palestine was drawn up today at an informal and closed conference of the Security Council members.

A paragraph on the composition of the commission was left open for further consideration.

Mr Warren Austin (United States) suggested the precedent of the Indonesia cease-fire formula should be followed and that members of the Security Council, who have consular offices on the spot, should be appointed to the truce commission.

The countries mentioned were the United States, Britain, France, Belgium, and Syria. It was understood that M. Andrei Tsimyko (Russia) suggested the

whole matter should be "discussed in the open," and proposed the entire problem should be thrashed out in a public meeting of the Security Council.

The draft resolution will be discussed at a meeting of the Security Council at Lake Success tomorrow.—Reuter.

PEACE RALLY BROKEN UP

Jerusalem, Apr. 14.—Peace demonstrations by Jerusalem's Orthodox Jews were broken up by Hagannah rifle butts today, according to a statement issued by the City's Orthodox Jewry.

A procession of several thousand Orthodox Jews, opposed to political Zionism, which they say is "leading Jews to great misfortune," marched through the streets of the Jewish quarter with banners demanding peace and a "cease fire" and asking the Government to deliver them from the "terrible crisis."

Hagannah troops tore down the banners and bent the demonstrators. Later, a larger Hagannah force arrived, fired their guns in the air and also beat up the demonstrators "without mercy," using their rifle butts.—Reuter.

ACCUSATIONS DENIED

London, Apr. 14.—The Palestine Commission's charges at Lake Success last night that Britain had shown a lack of co-operation over the Palestine issue were today categorically repudiated by a Colonial Office spokesman.

The charges, made in the Commission's report to the United Nations General Assembly, have aroused strong resentment in High Government quarters in London.

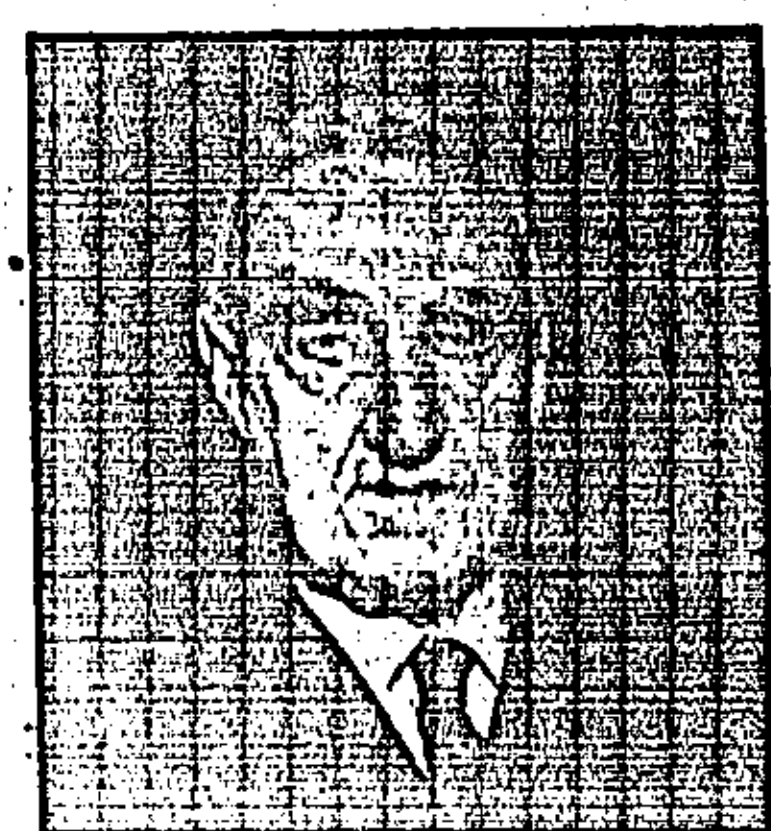
The Colonial Office spokesman's replies today to the individual charges were:

That Britain had refused to admit the Commission into Palestine before May 1, the spokesman said Britain had often declared that the arrival of the Commission would be the signal for fresh disorders.

That Britain had refused a progressive transfer of power—two authorities could not exist side by side and "any prolonged hangover would mean that Britain might be involved in implementing by force the partition of any other scheme."

That Britain had made it impossible to organise Arab and Jewish militias—"Britain cannot continue to be responsible for law and order and, at the same time, permit autonomous armed bodies to come into being."

The spokesman declared that there had been the fullest co-operation with the Commission, but that Britain was determined not to be a party to enforcing any scheme.—Reuter.



Boyd Orr Resigns

New Director-Gen. Of FAO

Washington, Apr. 14.—Mr Norris E. Dodd, United States Under-Secretary of State for Agriculture, was today appointed Director General of the Food and Agricultural Organisation in succession to Sir John Boyd Orr.

Sir John Boyd Orr has resigned, it was stated. Mr Dodd's appointment to the \$22,500 tax-free post, recommended by the General Committee, was confirmed unanimously by the Council today.

Sir John has been Director-General since the organisation was set up in October, 1945.

The Food and Agricultural Organisation today unanimously elected Ceylon as its 57th member. The election took place after the FAO suspended the rule requiring longer notice than Ceylon was able to give because of the late attainment of her independence. She will be entitled to take her seat after formal acceptance of the FAO Constitution.—Reuter.

KHARTOUM RIOT

Khartoum, Apr. 14.—Charging with truncheons and using tear gas, Khartoum police today broke up a riot outside the Governor's palace after a leader of the striking Sudan railway workers had been sentenced to 15 days imprisonment. Over 50 persons were injured, it is reported.

Suliman Musa whose 10,000 followers ceased work on March 16 for higher wages—convicted for making a speech liable "to disturb public tranquillity."

Rioters earlier in the day stoned the Grand Hotel Annex and broke the window of a taxi carrying a foreign woman passenger.

At Abart, the town's railway headquarters, strikers declared that there is no possibility of their returning to work until Musa is freed. Meanwhile, with Sudan's communications badly crippled, the Government has offered to increase the strikers' wages a total cost of 353,000 Egyptian pounds yearly.—Associated Press.

Trapped In Burning Coach

Kremlin, Oklahoma, Apr. 14.—A southbound train called the Rock Island Rocket, overturned at Kremlin, Oklahoma today.

The telephone operator at Kremlin reported that people were trapped in a burning coach. The operator said "we have had a terrible accident."—Associated Press.

Bradley Wants Standing Army Of 1,500,000 Men

Washington, Apr. 14.—General Omar N. Bradley, U.S. Chief of Staff, said America should raise a standing Army of 1,500,000 men if it does not institute universal military training.

He said the Soviet Union has 170,000 men, and would cost many billions annually. "The House Committee is studying a draft bill which would increase the army's total strength from 442,000 to 782,000. In recent days the House has heard these comparative statements on Russian versus American military strength."

Secretary of Defence James Forrestal said Russia had the atomic bomb secret but not the industrial ability to make it.

Air War, Stuart Symington said Russia is building 12 times as many aeroplanes as the U.S. Admiral Louis Denfeld, Chief of Naval Operations, said the Soviet Union probably has 300 submarines compared to America's 175.—Associated Press.

EDITORIAL

A Campaign Is Needed

THERE is less inclination on the part of the public today to view the water shortage with complacency. The community is gradually realising that not only are our seasonal rains very much behind time, but that they may not now arrive early enough to avoid a catastrophe such as occurred in 1929. The disclosure by the authorities that our reservoirs now hold only enough water to maintain the Colony for 80 days is disquieting, and but slightly relieved by the news that there has been a saving of daily consumption in consequence of the enforced restrictions. It is extremely doubtful, however, whether the general public is making anything like the contribution it should and could towards lessening water consumption. This is very largely due to the authorities themselves, who have made no serious endeavour to campaign for wholesale water saving. The periodic statements on current water reserves, with vague references to the possibility of further restrictions, together with little appeals to the public to watch their taps and where possible use less water, are not sufficient to press home the gravity of the situation. The newspapers give as much publicity as possible, but not every man or householder can or does read the newspapers, and it is high time Government organised a campaign that would reach the ears of thousands who probably do not realise that Hong Kong is suffering an acute water shortage. In BMA days and since certain departments, notably the Public Relations Office, the Health Authorities and the Police have run a succession of campaigns

which, by means of mobile loud-speaker vans, posters, radio and the schools, have managed to reach all sections of the public. The water saving campaign proved particularly successful in propagandising among the tens of thousands of Chinese in the crowded shopping and tenement areas on both sides of the harbour. The waterfront, market Road West, Yau Ma Tei and Sham-shuipo are obvious points of direct contact with those to whom it is most necessary the warnings and admonitions should be addressed. Schoolchildren provide another splendid source for spreading the gospel of "Save Water" and the Water Authorities should seek the assistance of the Education Department and the private schools in promoting a campaign. Only by making the public fully conscious of the seriousness of the water shortage can Government hope to secure voluntary co-operation by householders and servants; and it will need something more vigorous than the precise and stilted statement issued to the Press on Tuesday if the public is to be told in the near future that it is its duty. Merely to suggest further supply restrictions if rain does not come in the near future is not sufficient to drive home the urgent necessity of avoiding any water waste at this moment. What the public has to be told is that unless there is an immediate discernible fall in daily consumption, additional compulsory restrictions will be enforced. Government can no longer afford to base its appeal to the community on the expectation of a seasonal rainfall in the near future. It must insist that only by using every device to save water now can the public avoid the immediate further inconvenience of more severe restrictions.

Britain Abolishes Death Penalty For Five Years

PARLIAMENT'S EXPERIMENT

London, Apr. 14.—The House of Commons today decided to abolish the death penalty for murder for a five-year test period.—Reuter.

Mr Sydney Silverman, a Labour solicitor, supported by 200 Members of all parties, moved, as a first step, a new clause to the Criminal Justice Bill, to suspend the death penalty for murder for five years as an experiment.

Describing the death penalty, as "a revolting and barbaric thing," he said figures showed that there had been no increase of violence of murder in those countries abroad which had abolished it.

The Government thinks abolition inopportune at the moment because of the increase in violence since the war and the numerical weakness of the police.

However, it granted a free vote to its rank and file Members.

Ministers were not allowed to vote against the Government, although they could abstain.

79 DAYS

—and no water unless the rains come!

SAVE MORE —and more and more EVERY DAY

The Bill is intended to make the penalty system more humanitarian and less punitive. Flogging, penal servitude, hard labour are abolished. All detention in future will be simply "imprisonment"—Reuter.

EXCITING VOTE

London, Apr. 14.—Crossing party lines, the House of Commons today overrode Government opposition and voted 245-222 to abolish the death penalty for murder for a trial period of five years.

When the bill becomes law, only high treason, piracy with violence and sabotage by Royal dockyards will be punishable by death in the United Kingdom, which had 200 capital crimes at the beginning of the 19th Century.

For an experimental five-year period, British murderers may be sentenced to life imprisonment, but not hanged. Cheers rang through the austere chamber after the unexpected vote. Members jumped excitedly to their feet, shouting, shaking hands and throwing papers in the air in a wild jubilation rarely observed in the House.—United Press.

KING AND QUEEN TO BROADCAST

London, Apr. 14.—The King and Queen will each broadcast to the nation on April 20, their Silver Wedding anniversary. It was announced tonight from Buckingham Palace.—Reuter.

Stassen Still Winning

Omaha, Nebraska, Apr. 14.—Scoring a second clearcut victory over Mr. Thomas Dewey, Governor of New York, Mr. Harold Stassen today consolidated his lead for nomination as a Republican Party candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

After his victory in the Wisconsin primary elections of the party, Mr Stassen today returned a four to three majority over Mr. Dewey in the Nebraska primaries.

With figures available for 1,353 of the State's 2024 districts, Mr Stassen had polled 49,500 against Mr. Dewey's 36,830.

Senator Robert Taft, the Republican leader in the Senate, had polled 12,020. Nebraska sends 15 delegates to the Republican National Convention which will choose the Party's candidate.

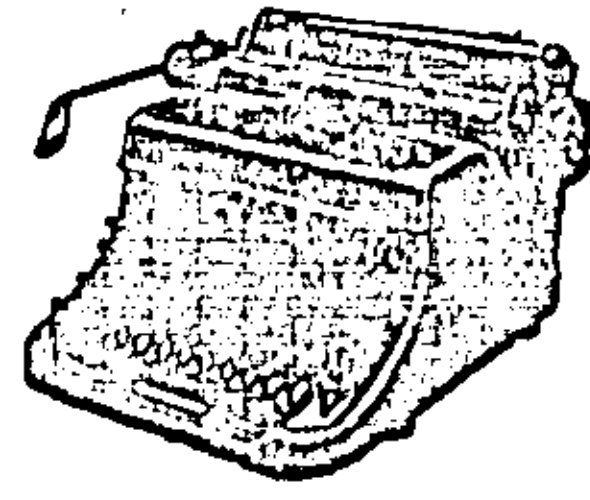
Although the delegates are not bound to follow the popular vote, at least 18 of them have pledged themselves to support the man getting the highest vote.—Reuter.

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MILTON Antiseptic is invaluable in many other germ-caused complaints. Read the instructions carefully.

Spring Hat



Pill box in red and white striped velvet with matching bows seen in London a fortnight ago.

A LOOK
BENEATH THE
NEW LOOK

PARIS. FASHION expert Worth has designed a new petticoat to go with the New Look.

Wide starched lingerie petticoats are needed to keep the wide skirts outspread.

This new petticoat, by clever designing, can be varied in length with different skirts.

For very long frocks it rests on the hips. For shorter ones, it can be raised and buttoned round the waist.

Tulip Line

Worth's special contribution to the New Look itself is the Tulip Line.

Slenderness of waists is emphasised by accentuated curves over the hips.

From the hips the skirt falls straight in its fullness to the hem. Worth's "Robe Surprise" definitely is a surprise.

It consists of an evening frock of black taffeta with a bodice, and a long underskirt embroidered in a rich flower pattern.

This underskirt can be dropped to turn an evening dress into a cocktail frock.

Dainty Conchita Is
A Lady Bullfighter

By NORINE CLARK

WORD spread around the International terminal at LaGuardia Airport recently, that a woman bullfighter had arrived from Lisbon on a Pan American Clipper. Everyone in the terminal made it his business to see what she looked like.

Some had visions of the Spanish equivalent of a woman wrestler—bulging muscles, man-sized hands, short hair cut. Others had a mental picture of a blood-thirsty, dark, ominous-looking creature.

So the appearance of fragile, slender, attractive Conchita Citron came as a surprise.

The 25-year-old beauty looks more like a convent-bred young lady—which she is—than the only bullfighter in the world who kills bulls both from horseback and on foot—which she also is.

Makeup Not Needed

Peru's contribution to the bullfighting world has blue eyes, shoulder-length dark blonde hair which she clasps in the back with a barrette, and she wears conservative but smart clothes. She is about five feet seven inches tall and weighs 121 pounds. She doesn't use makeup—but she does not need it.

Conchita says her father, Frank Citron, is an American citizen—having been born in Puerto Rico. He is a graduate of West Point and is now an exporter-importer in Lima. Her mother is an American, the daughter of the author, explorer and naturalist, Alpheus Hyatt Verrill.

In perfect English, Conchita explained to reporters that she learned to ride when she was very young. Her instructor was Ruy Da Camara, former Portuguese consul in Lima and in his day the world's greatest Portuguese-style bullfighter. Portuguese style means not killing the bull, she explained.

The record shows that she fought her first bullfight for charity when she was 13 years old, living in Lima. That was Portuguese style. Then when she was just a few months older, she killed her first bull at Tarma, Peru. That is Spanish style.

Since then she estimates she has fought more than 400 fights and nearly one thousand bulls. She says she has no idea how much she has earned but that she now gets between US\$10,000 and \$15,000 a performance. This past season, she fought 55 fights—40 in Portugal, Spain, France and North Africa and 15 in South America. That, roughly, gives her an income of about US\$750,000 annually.

It's Dangerous

Her answer to the question, "But isn't bullfighting dangerous for a woman?" was "It is dangerous for anyone."

Conchita has a great love for horses, and as a "rejonadora"—that is fighting bulls from horseback—she worries more about her horses being hurt than herself. She says, "I have never had a horse killed."

She has been wounded once and, as she puts it, "tossed about a lot, but I've been lucky."

As for romance in her life, the bullfighting lady modestly refused to discuss that. She did say, "Like any other girl, I expect to marry some time. Not now."

An aside to her—duenna (chaperone) brought out the fact that Conchita has amorous and hopeful swains clamouring for her attention, wherever she appears. "Some even fly from one continent to another to be near her," admitted Señora Du Camara, who is obviously very proud of her pretty and accomplished charge.

She has never appeared in the United States although she has been invited to give exhibition bullfights—without killing the bull, that is—but, she says, "I've never got around to it."—United Press.

Ease and Grace of Movement



Whether sitting or standing, an easy, graceful pose is natural to screen star Evelyn Keyes.

By HELEN FOLLETT

GRACE resides in the mind and the muscles. One should desire with all one's heart and soul to move beautifully, and one should keep the musculature resilient and strong. Large and small muscles must work together harmoniously. Everyone is impressed by the sight of the woman who has a well-proportioned figure, and whose every movement is graceful. Why is she so blessed? She probably played vigorously in childhood, had plenty of health-giving outdoor life, still finds sports and exercise interesting.

If a woman regards exercise as a dull routine, she will have none of it. If she gets the idea in her head that it is recreation and fun, she will find time for it. It is all in the state of mind. In either case she should endeavour to sit pretty, stand tall, move with spirit and ease. When grace becomes a habit, awkward, jerky movements will vanish.

Cultivate the idea of rhythm. Express rhythm in every act, when brushing your hair, slipping on your frock, walking down stairs. Observe how you sink into a chair, how you lift yourself from it, how you turn your head, raise a hand.

Keep yourself limber by doing arm swinging exercise, by twisting the body from side to side, pivoting at the waistline, touching the floor without bending the knees. Do everything to preserve the sweet shape.

Exercise promotes a sense of well-being. Because it stretches the lungs, it imparts pleasing colouring to the complexion. With a feeling of physical fitness one can tackle the job each day with interest.

I suggest that you plan a special time for daily calisthenics. Get out of doors every day, willy-nilly, rain or shine. It is the only way to keep young and fresh-looking. Be a Woman Alive and beauty griefs will not bother you.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

What the Toys Liked to Eat

—Teddy Liked Sawdust; Mr. Punch, Cotton—

By MAX TRELL

MISS China Doll, who had beautiful golden curls, and blue eyes (which she could shut and open), and who lived in her own private house near the sunny window in the playroom, decided she would give a dinner party.

"I'll invite everyone in the playroom," she told Hanid when they sat on the steps of Miss China Doll's house. "I'll buy a big roast beef. Everyone likes roast beef. Then I'll bake a chocolate cake. Everyone loves chocolate cake. And then—why, what's the matter, Hanid? Why are you shaking your head?"

Hanid said: "Everyone may like chocolate cake and roast beef. But I'm sure the folks you are going to invite don't."

Doesn't See Why

"Well," said Miss Doll, shaking her curls a bit impatiently, "I don't see why they shouldn't. Roast beef and chocolate cake are delicious. Teddy, the Stuffed Bear, General Tin, the tin soldier, Mary-Jane, the rag-doll, and Mr. Punch and Judy will love them."

"Teddy, the Stuffed Bear," said Hanid, "only eats sawdust. He's stuffed with it. He never eats anything else."

"That's silly of him," said Miss China Doll. "It's much better to be stuffed with roast beef and chocolate cake."

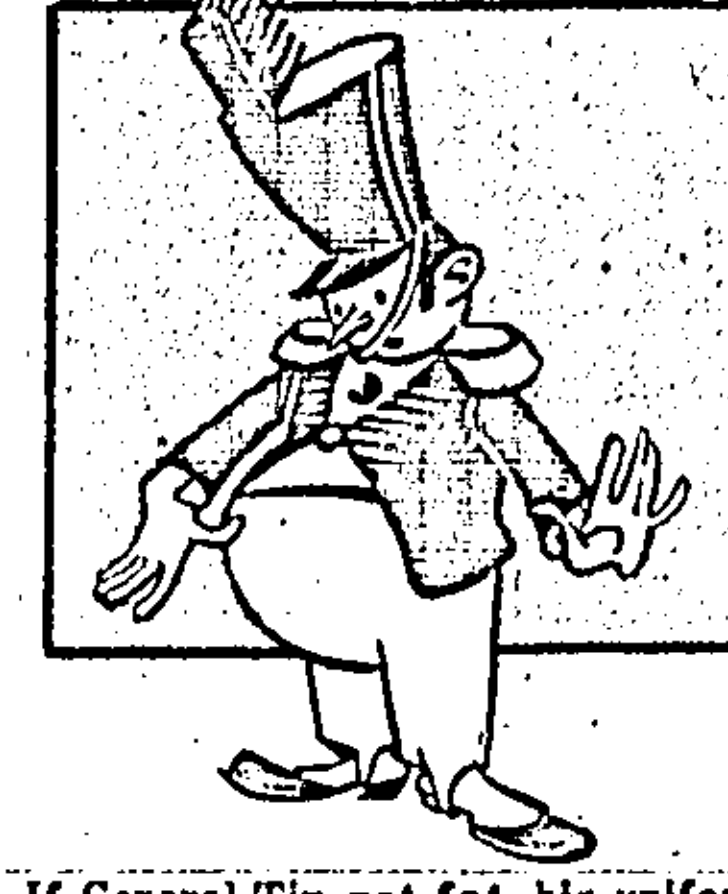
"And General Tin the tin soldier, never eats anything but tin and lead. Nothing else agrees with him. Besides," she added the next moment, "he wouldn't eat the chocolate cake because it would get him fat. And if he got fat his uniform wouldn't fit him."

"I never heard of such a thing," said Miss China Doll.

"Mary-Jane, the rag-doll, can't eat roast beef and chocolate cake either."

"I suppose," Miss China Doll said, "you're going to tell me that she eats rags."

"Yes, that's just what I was about to tell you. Sometimes she eats dried peas and beans. But she always likes rags."



If General Tin got fat, his uniform wouldn't fit.

"What about Mr. Punch and Judy?" asked Miss China Doll, beginning to think by this time that her dinner-guests all certainly had strange likes and dislikes when it came to eating.

"Mr. Punch and Judy eat cotton stuffing," said Hanid with a smile. "They also like paper, and thread and duck feathers." Then Hanid asked the question that Miss China Doll had hoped she wouldn't ask. "Do you like roast beef and chocolate cake?"

"No—but—but I'm giving the dinner party. I serve food for my guests, not for myself."

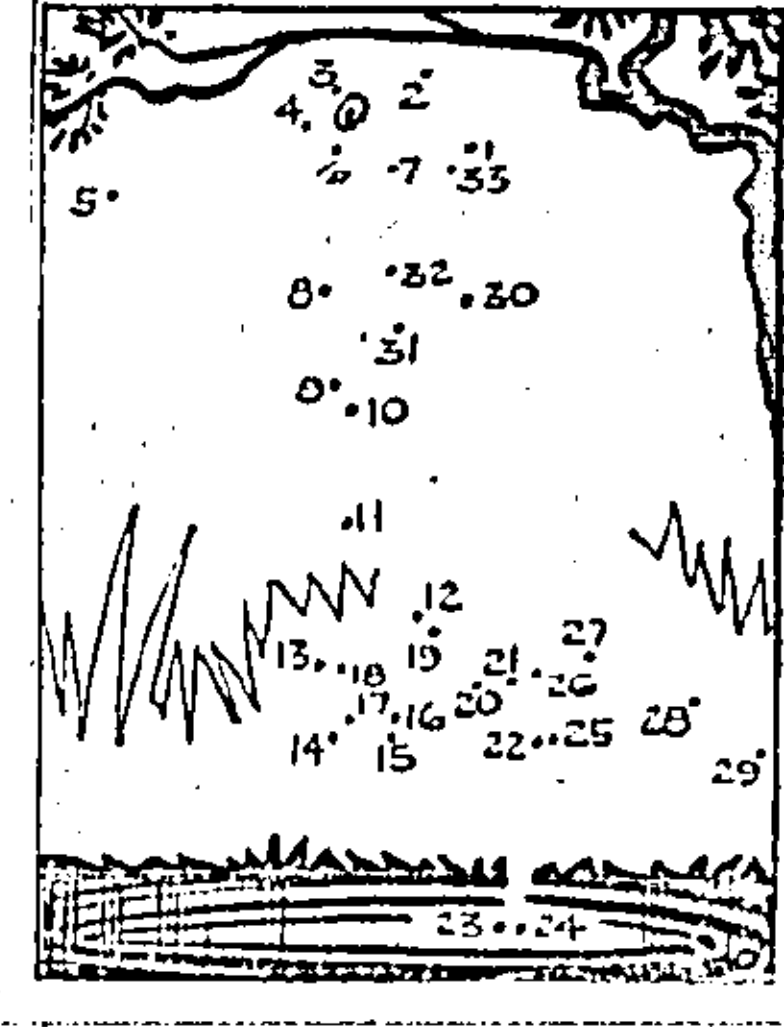
"What do you like for yourself?"

Lowered Her Eyes

Miss China Doll lowered her eyes. "I like plaster. It's what I like best of all."

So at Miss China Doll's dinner party, which was held in her own private house near the sunny window next to the gazebow plant and the canary cage, she served a large roast made of rags and ribbon and thread and paper and duck feathers and tin and lead, sprinkled with sawdust. And for dessert she served beautiful cotton fluff cakes. They looked exactly like cream puffs. Everyone thought it was the best dinner party they had ever been invited to. As for Miss China Doll she just nibbled some plaster cookies—but no one could have been happier.

DOTTY STORY



One of the feathered creatures of the jungle was standing in the middle of a pond one day while the other animals played on the bank. They needed one more player to join them in a brisk game of wood-tag and so they called to the bird in the pond:

"Come and play with us!"

To which the bird replied: "I can't, I'm—in the mud."

Draw lines between the dots, starting with No. 1, then going to No. 2 and so on. When you finish you'll have the missing word.

HERE'S A TIP

If you are doing something in company with others, get into the job or into the game with wholehearted enthusiasm and attention. Otherwise, out of courtesy and respect to your friends, stay out.

NEW WORD

Every child knows and uses the word "gas," yet the word does not appear in Shakespeare's works, nor in the Bible. The word was invented by Chemist Von Helmholtz of Brussels, who died in 1854.

Rupert helps Dr. Lion—12



To Rupert's distress he finds that the old Professor is sitting in his dressing-gown with his feet in a bath of hot water. "This is awful," cries the little bear. "Nearly every one in Nutwood is ill and Dr. Lion says that all they need is sunshine. I was going to ask if you could help him to get some, but you have a cold, too, so that must mean that even you don't know how to make the sun to shine! I'm afraid it does," says the old man. "In fact I've never thought of trying."

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BEST DRESSED WOMEN



Three of the 12 women chosen in New York by the Fashion Academy as the "best dressed" women in America pose after their selection. Left to right: Maggi McNeill, commentator; Mrs. Walter Thornton, fashion promoter, and Mrs. Laurite Meichler, wife of the opera star. The 12 winners, selected from as many fields of women's endeavour, were chosen for their ability to dress smartly in keeping with their budgets. — AP Wirephoto.

RED RYDER



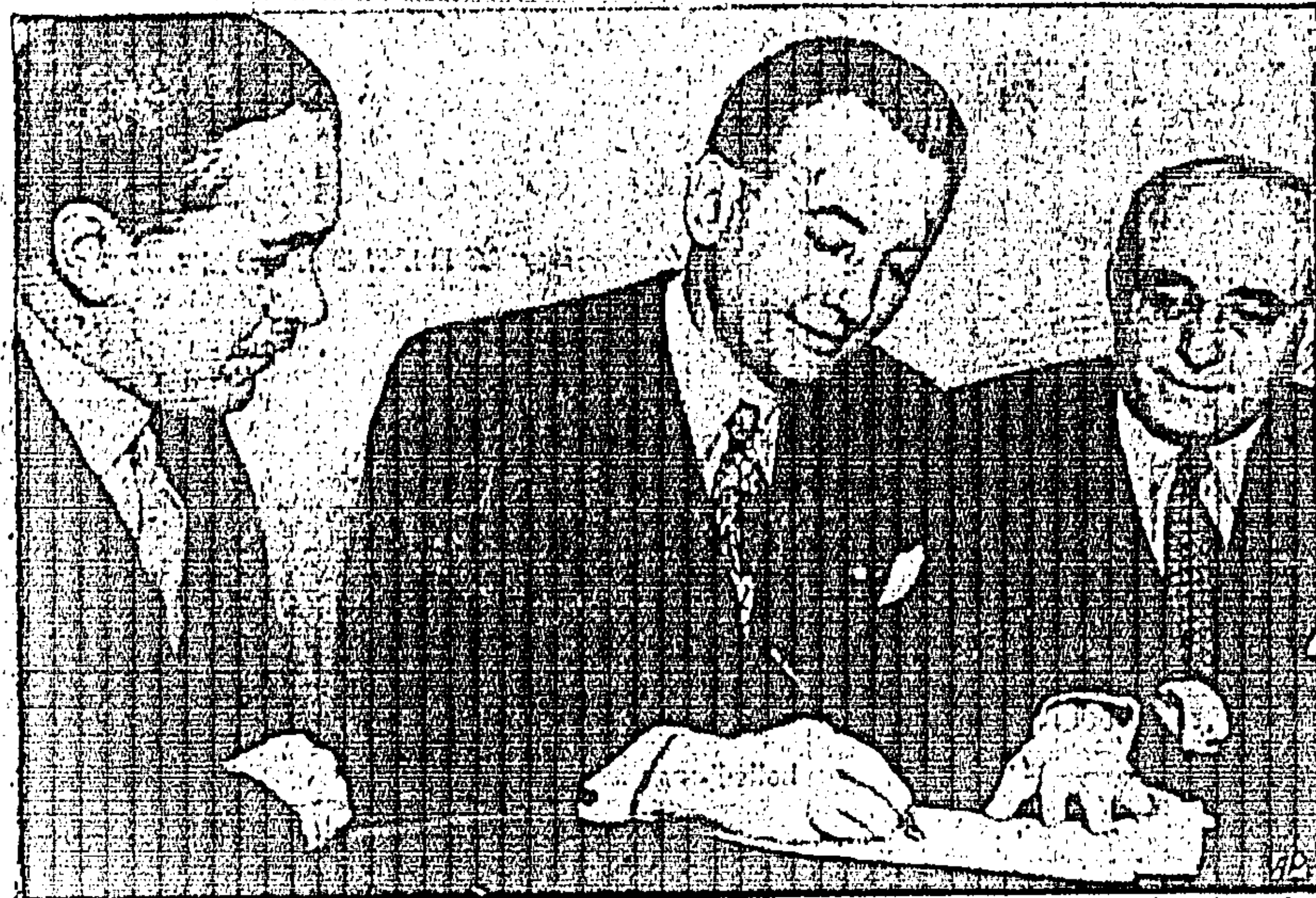
Trouble Ahead



By Fred Harman



WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



BRITISH-AMERICAN FILM AGREEMENT—Eric Johnston (centre), president of the Motion Picture Association of America, signs a new agreement in London to admit more U.S. films. Harold Wilson (left), President of the Board of Trade, and James Mulvey (right), representing the Society of Independent Movie Producers, look on.



WOMAN JET PILOT KILLED—Police inspect wreckage of a twin-engine chartered plane that crashed into a garden at the edge of Croydon airport, killing co-pilot Mrs Patricia Beverley and injuring the pilot and two passengers. Mrs Beverley was believed to be the only woman to have flown a jet plane.



ON WAY TO HEAR SENTENCE—Maj-Gen Bennett E. Meyers (left) walks up steps to a court building in Washington, D.C. He was sentenced to serve from 20 months to five years in prison. A jury convicted the former U.S. Air Force procurement officer on three counts of inducing a former business associate to lie to a Senate committee.



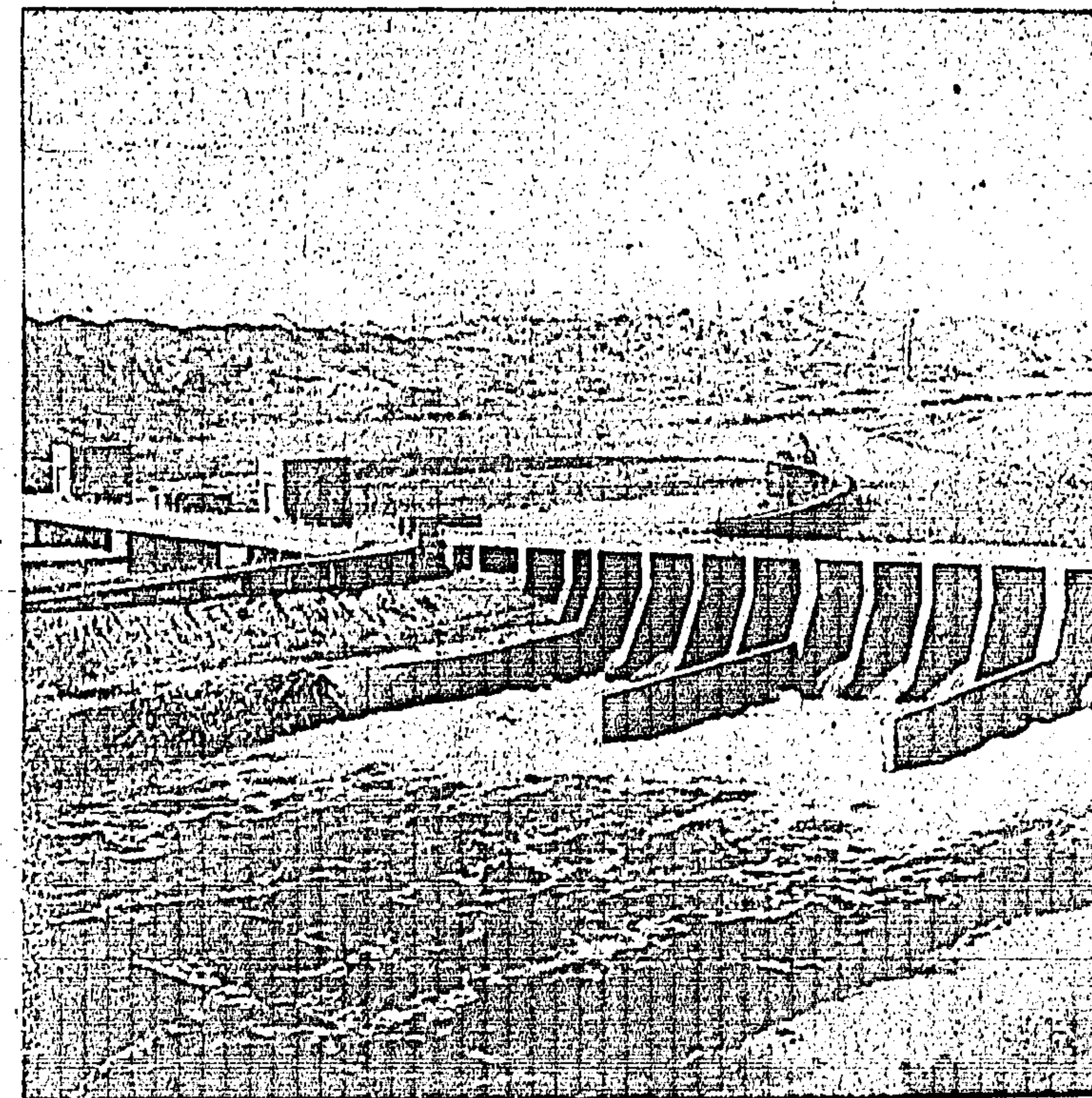
MATURE MARRIES SOCIETY GIRL—Movie actor Victor Mature and his bride, Mrs Dorothy Stanford Berry, Pasadena (California) society matron, are shown following their marriage at Yuma, Arizona. It was Mature's third marriage.



DE VALERA IN NEW YORK—Eamon De Valera (left), former Prime Minister of Eire, is greeted by Grover A. Whalen (lower right), chairman of the New York Mayor's official reception committee, at LaGuardia Field.



THIS IS HOW—Marcel Cerdan, French middleweight champion, demonstrates to Maurice Chevalier how he stopped Laverne Roach in a recent bout at New York's Madison Square Garden. Between them, Cerdan and Chevalier are the biggest money magnets that have visited the U.S. from France since the war.



HELP FOR CALIFORNIA CROPS—Water from the Imperial Dam on the Colorado River near Blythe, California, is diverted to the Imperial and Coachella valleys to help drought-threatened farms. Crops in the Imperial valley are valued at U.S.\$100,000,000. The drought was one of the worst in the state's history.

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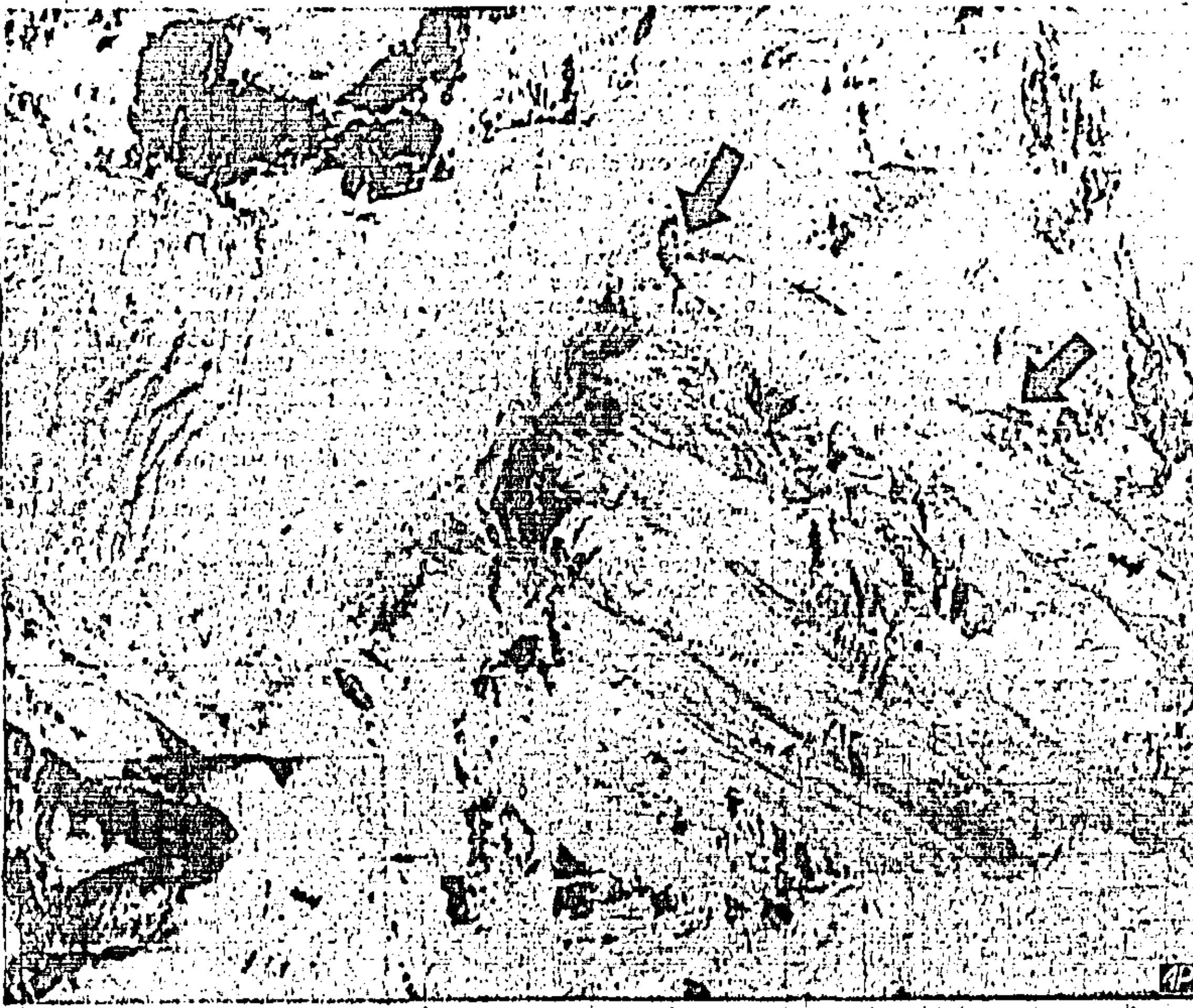
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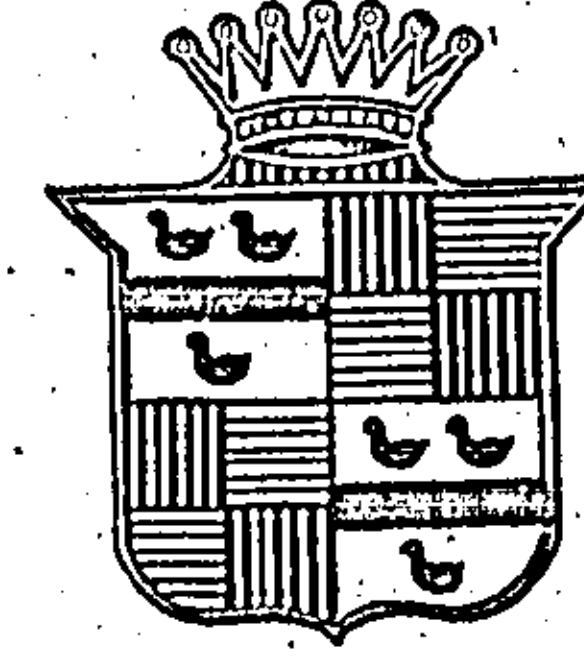
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GLACIER TOMB OF BIG PLANE AND PASSENGERS—Authorities say it is improbable that the bodies of 30 persons, victims of a Northwest Airlines DC-4 crash, will be recovered from the icy slopes of Mount Sanford, 16,208-foot crag-ridden peak 190 miles northeast of Anchorage, Alaska. This general air view of the scene shows where the plane exploded on impact (upper arrow). Fatal trail drops a sheer 2,500 feet to where the wreckage came to rest (lower arrow) atop an active glacier.

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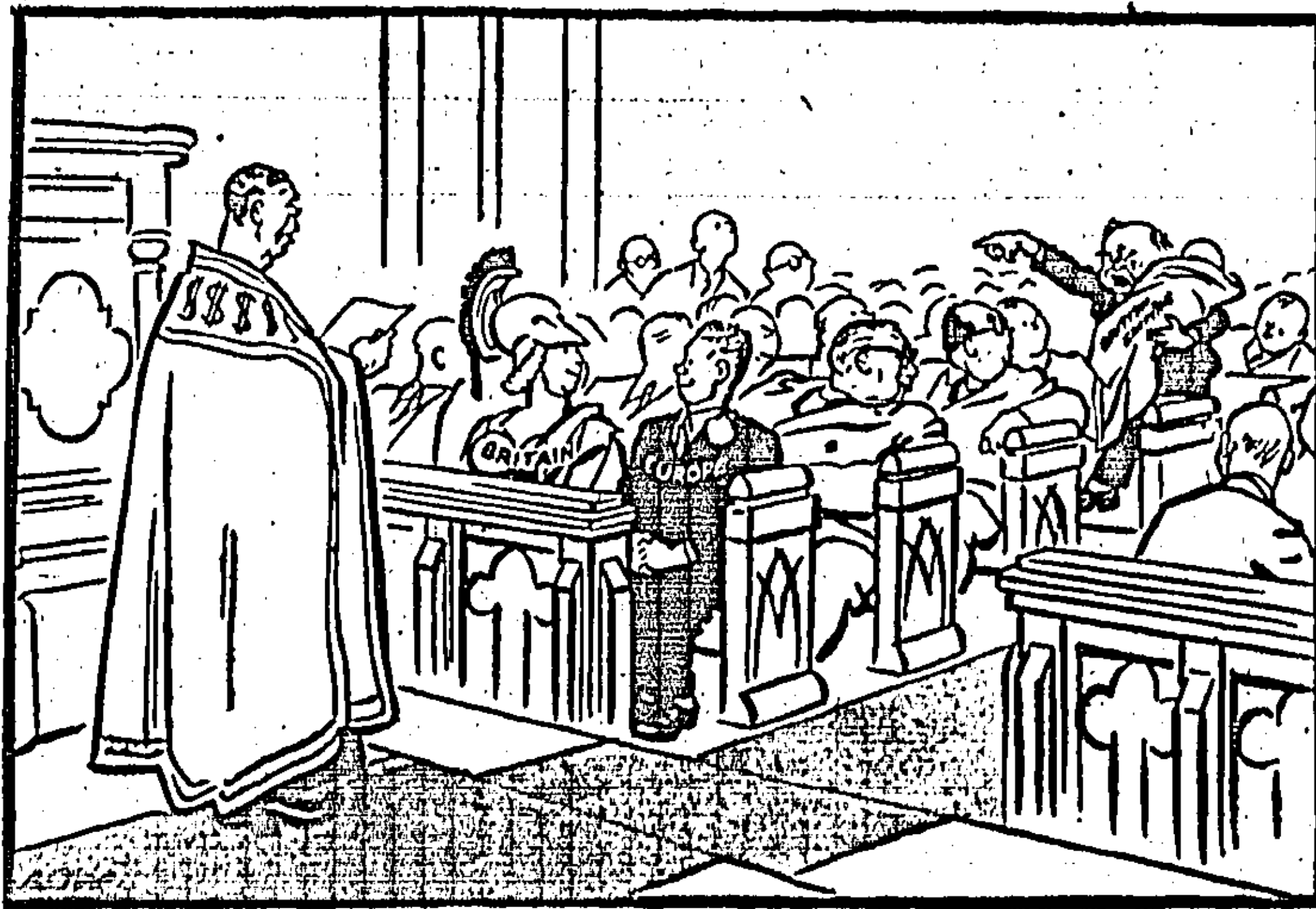
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Political Newsfront

By W. J. BROWN, M.P.

TODAY I HEARTILY PRAISE MR MCNEIL

SOMETIMES this column criticises Ministers. Sometimes it instructs them. Sometimes it praises them.

Today it praises, heartily and without reservation, Mr. Hector McNeill. At the United Nations conference now being held in Geneva about freedom of information, he has made a great utterance on behalf of the British Press. It deserves immortality.

"The British people," said Mr. McNeill, "regard restrictive Press practices as Fascist," as also "the abominable and vicious process by which a Government constitutes itself at once the author, the censor, the publisher, the prosecutor the judge and jury" in Press matters. That was finely said. But Mr. McNeill had more to say.

"The free expression of conflicting views," said he, "is the life-blood of British journalism. When the Daily Herald goes wrong it is corrected by the Daily Herald. When the Daily Herald goes wrong or even right—it is corrected by the Daily Worker. But who corrects Pravda?"

Mr. McNeill even had a word to say on the Subject of Press monopoly, and on the bold, bad barons of the Press.

"Monopoly in the British Press," he said, "is more apparent than real. For the fearful Press barons are never found in one club." True. Sometimes they even get thrown out of the clubs they are in—like Lord Beaverbrook from the Carlton.

Mr. McNeill concluded by saying: "The British Press is not perfect. And for three hundred years it has been subjected to criticism. But the fact remains that much of the world has taken it as a model."

NOW this speech, when I read it, buckled me up no end. Had I been at Geneva—I should have broken into spontaneous and emphatic applause.

I am a journalist, and also an Englishman; and it is good that I and my brothers of the craft should be so strongly and splendidly defended.

But when Mr. McNeill has finished his job at Geneva there is another job for him to do at home.

FOR there is a certain disparity of emphasis, not to say divergence of view, between what he so greatly said at Geneva to the foreigners, and what some of his colleagues say in England to the natives.

Thus, Mr. G. S. Lindgren, M.P. (who, according to his constituents before election that that he would never, no never, interfere with the Friendly Societies, proceeded as soon as he took office, to take over those same Friendly Societies) speaks in very different tones.

"The Press," said he, talking of civil aviation on March 10 last—"takes one-tenth fact, nine-tenths misstatement, misrepresentation and wrong emphasis, and completely confuses the issue."

Another Minister, Mr. A. V. Alexander, said, a couple of days before this speech at Mr. Lindgren's—"Any deterioration in the world because of what is supposed to be the power and strength of the Royal Navy is... due to the malice of the Press."

LAST October Mr. Shinwell was saying, "I read the most distorted and garbled versions of what I say in the newspapers." (The trouble is, of course, that Mr.

Shinwell is very garbled in speech. What he meant to say, in that sentence, was, "I read in the newspapers the most distorted and garbled versions of what I say.")

Then, last December, we had Mr. Wilson, the President of the Board of Trade, saying, "Reporters sit there and scribble every word you say in the hope that you are going to make some frightful blunder, and don't report you if you do not."

And finally, a couple of years ago, "Our 'Erb' (at that time preparing the ground for a Royal Commission on the Press) was saying: "Suppression, misrepresentation, inventions—these things happen day by day, and constitute a disgrace to journalism."

NOW, as between these conflicting voices among Ministers, I take my stand with Hector McNeill. Like him, I do not think the British Press is perfect. But I

believe it to be the best in the world.

I have read every word of the evidence given before the Royal Commission on the Press. And I have reached the firm conclusion that there is no defect in the Press as we now know it that would not be made worse by the hotch-potch of ill-considered and half-thought-out suggestions made to that august body.

With a free Press, evils beget their own remedy. Where the Government is "author, censor, publisher, prosecutor, judge and jury in Press matters"—or even where it seeks to impose restrictions on Press practices—there is no remedy for the vastly worse evils that follow in their train.

I SUGGEST that the Press commission should summon Mr. McNeill as its next and last witness—and then stop wasting the public money.

Pound-note gamblers make Riviera look tame...

By ROBERT DOUGLAS

NASSAU. In evening gowns, bright lights, spinning roulette wheels, desperate, excited chatter—these and the other Monte Carlo-like ingredients that make gambling a glamorous pursuit are here for you.

All this you can find in the British Empire, and in the travel restrictions which make Monte Carlo itself forbidden fruit. And all this you can enjoy without any fear of the police breaking up the party.

For here in Nassau two Americans—Mr. Willard Mackenzie and Mr. Frank Dineen—are running a well-regulated gaming casino.

Of course, they would be locked up or deported if they took their game to Britain. But in this part of the Empire things are different.

Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Dineen are esteemed members of the community. They conduct their business with scrupulous regard for the law—such as it is—and there can be no criticism of them.

Flocking in PEOPLE are flocking here this year from Britain, Canada, and the United States to share the thrills of the Mackenzie-Dineen roulette wheel or baccarat table.

The winter tourist season is at its height, and every night Nassau produces a great crowd of gamblers. Stakes are high. Many patrons who stay till dawn are in reckless mood. Some transactions make Riviera casinos look tame.

This extraordinary proceeding takes place not in some backstreet premises but in a large, luxuriously appointed building that stands prominently on the hill behind Nassau.

Near by is the residence of the Governor, whose despatches go regularly to the Colonial Office. And wouldn't Mr. Creech Jones be horrified if he discovered somebody had opened a casino next door to him in Whitehall?

The gambling den is called the Bahamian Club. It has been in existence as a club for nearly 30 years, and for a large part of that time the two Americans have been coming to Nassau every year to welcome its patrons to the fun.

Its legal status is clear enough, for the Bahamas penal code was amended in 1938 to permit the Governor-in-Council to exempt any person, club, or charitable organisation from the ban that applies throughout the Empire on keeping a gaming-house.

The Bahamian Club enjoys such exemption.

The premises are owned by Mr. Frederick Sigrist, a wealthy Englishman who has been investing a lot of money in the Bahamas in recent years. He bought the place during the war, at a time when the club was closed down.

Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Dineen had a little trouble in starting up when they renewed their lease after the war. Some of the Colony's politicians thought at the time that casino might not be quite the thing for Nassau after all.

But their licence was renewed in the end. And now nobody in any responsible position seems to mind about the Bahamas being the only British territory in my knowledge where gaming is officially blessed.

No rivals WHEN other enterprising Americans thought about building bigger and better casinos for the

British Empire, they were told the Colony could not make a habit of licensing gambling. So the Bahamian Club has been given a virtual monopoly.

A strange fact is that this Colonial Government, which is so benevolent to Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Dineen, gets no revenue at all from their club. It is evidently unwilling to collect any of the proceeds of gambling.

And it takes good care, too, to exclude Bahamians from the Bahamian Club. The special ordinance for Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Dineen tells them to keep out both residents and infants.

And if they have any doubt about whether a visitor is a Bahamian or not they have instructions to ask either the Bahamian Attorney-General or Colonial Secretary for a ruling. Thus the Nassau Government protects its own from the temptation that prevail in the house on the hill.

Baffled men THERE is another prohibition—imposed this time by Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Dineen themselves. You must gamble in evening clothes. Whether this is a test of money or manners is not stated.

You can have good food and dancing at the club. But, of course, most visitors go for the gambling, which is carried on in both pounds and dollars. When you win, you are paid in whatever currency you staked. That is an important regulation, too, and the promoters obey it.

The Nassau Currency Controller has another problem. For these days, whenever British and U. S. tourists—particularly the gambling sort—get together with money in their hands, some black market dealings are inevitable.

Of course, the Bahamas Government can no more tackle this particular problem than any of the other British West Indies can. They are all baffled by the illegal currency transactions that cost the Empire millions of dollars every year.

Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Dineen have bright and glittering prospects in years to come.

.. So I drove away to a village

(Imagine trying to escape from politics near Trieste...)

by SEPTON DELMER

THE waiter pulled up the blind and threw open the window. Sunshine, blue sky, blue sea—and an American cruiser.

The cruiser, said the waiter who is very political, had come to see that the Yugo-slavs did not seize Trieste before it could be given back to Italy.

The cruiser had tied up during the night at the wharf beneath my balcony. And here it was now, pushing its cool, grey nose into my breakfast tray of hard-boiled eggs and coffee.

One egg was coloured olive green—"like the carabinieri police," said the waiter who is not only political but poetical. The other was crimson—"like the Communists," said the waiter.

I could see there was going to be no Easter holiday from politics in Trieste. And then, just as the first procession was marching by with band blaring and banners held aloft, came a call from the professor. He had a brand-new export model Austin Ten—and this being Trieste and not London—all the petrol he needs.

"What about a run out into the hills?" he said. "What about getting away from the 'situation' for a few hours?"

Of course, we could not get away from the situation. It was with us all the way. For Trieste, which the Communists call the Danzig of 1948, is like Berlin, one of the key junctions between the Communists and the non-Communist West.

"That looks a nice bit of country," I said, pointing up the road towards a range of hills about half a mile away, when we were thinking of starting.



Fear lives here on the border...

"Afraid we can't go there," said the professor. "It is Trieste territory all right, but it belongs to the Yugoslav zone, and the Yugs don't allow anyone in, only Trieste. That is, except to whom they have given special passes. Now, of course, do we allow people from their zone into ours without a pass. Afraid of infiltration..."

Why they stay SO we set off in the opposite direction. And soon—the Free Territory of Trieste is not very large if you do not include the Yugoslav zone—we were at the frontier post showing our passports to the blue-uniformed Trieste police and the olive-uniformed Italians before crossing into Italy.

But even in Italy I found that the house walls were still covered in crudely painted Slovene slogans praising Tito and democratic Yugoslavia. They had first been put up at the end of the war, when all this country had been under partisan control.

"Why don't they paint the slogans out?" I asked. "They are afraid," explained the professor. "And there is another thing. These people are still not sure that they will not suddenly become part of Yugoslavia. The Communists assure them that, despite the Peace Treaty, sooner or later all this area will be handed over by Italy to the Yugs."

On our 50-mile outing we made a stop at the little hilltop village of San Floriano. I would have wanted to stop there anyhow, the place looked so unbelievably like a colour film with its vine-covered cottages, nestled among orchards of pink-blossomed peach trees.

The conversion WE found the old priest—a Slovene—at his house taking a few minutes off between services. When we came in he was standing on his dining-room table trying to fix a bulb in the electric lamp. He got down and hospitably gave us wine.

A year ago, the priest told us—he spoke German and Italian as well as Slovene—many of the people in his parish would have voted for the Popular Front. But on September 15 last year an important event took place. The Yugoslav frontier, which up to then had been 30 miles away from San Floriano at its nearest point, moved up to the village.

Their friends and neighbours in the valley had become Yugoslavs, and the village now had a close-up view of conditions on the other side of the Iron Curtain. As a result, they are almost solidly anti-Communist.

I talked with the villagers. I did not ask them how they were going to vote in the elections. I asked: "Do you think your neighbours in the valley are better off now that they are part of Yugoslavia, or are conditions much as they were before?"

ONLY one of the people I asked—a tall, sallow-faced Italian Communist in dirty blue overalls—insisted that the neighbours in the valley were better off today than they had been. "They have work," he said, "and where there is work there is life."

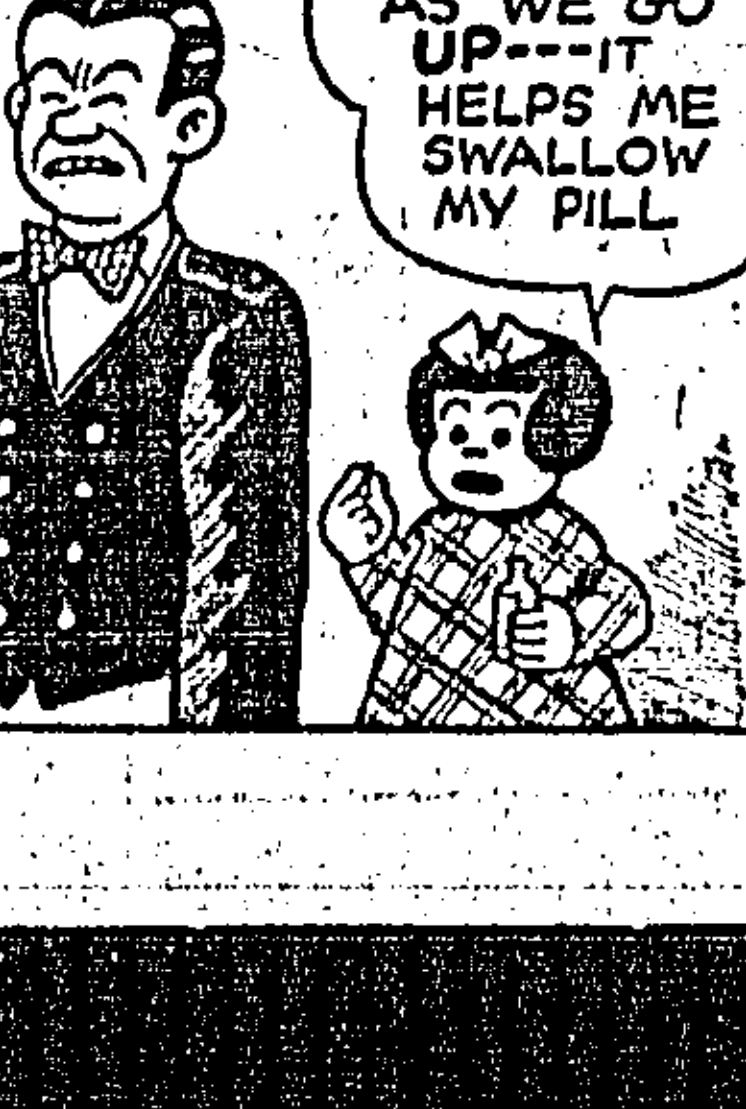
But the Slovenes were all sure that the peasants in the valley were much worse off today.

A bricklayer of San Floriano told me that he had gone to the other side in September last year with his wife and children thinking there would be much for him to do there. "They paid me 140 dinars a day," he said, "but a kilogramme of bread cost 130 dinars."

That, however, he insisted, was not the worst. "Everyone there is afraid to talk, afraid even to think." He and his wife and children had managed to escape. Many others had tried and been caught.

When the time comes for the Italian elections I shall watch with particular interest how this group of Slovenes in Venezia Giulia, on the borders of Trieste, vote. For they are the only Slavs not yet behind the Iron Curtain.

NANCY Better Than Water

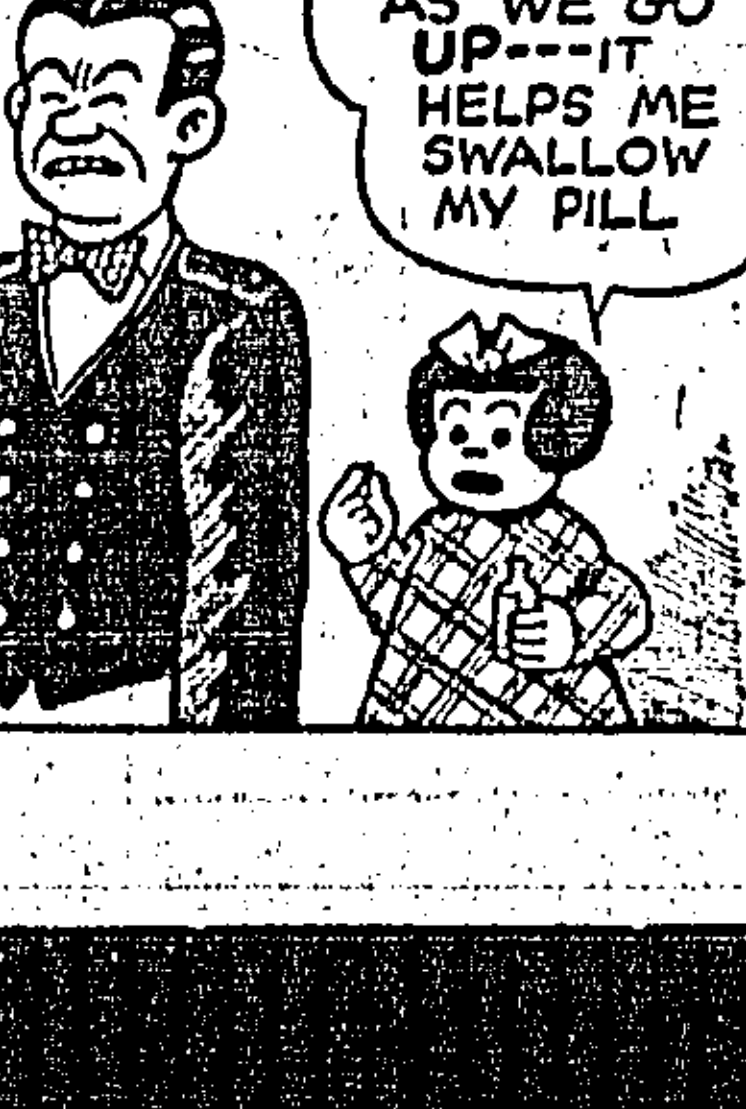


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By Ernie Bushmiller



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FARMERS ORDERED TO MOVE

OCCUPYING LAND WITHOUT PERMITS

A group of farmers staying on a plot of land in Boundary Street which Government intends to convert into a recreation ground, were ordered to move out by the end of the month by Mr Blair-Kerr at Kowloon this morning.

Twenty-three summonses for occupying Crown Land without a permit which had been cancelled were issued by the Magistrate.

Mr S. A. Fowler said ample notice had been given the farmers who had known since last September that the permits would not be renewed. Their petition to the PWD had been refused as Government wanted to turf the land in May.

At Mr Fowler's request, the Magistrate fined four of the men the equivalent of the fees they owed and cautioned the rest. He told them that if they did not clear their land and other possessions by the end of the month, Government would clear them.

S.A. Rumjahn Strains Leg

Owing to a leg muscle injury sustained while playing in the singles yesterday, S. A. Rumjahn will be unable to partner H. D. Rumjahn in the Open doubles quarter-final on the Stand Court this afternoon against the Tsui brothers.

Instead, Kenneth and Thomas Lo will meet Choy Ping-fan and Lee Yue-wing in a quarter-final match.

KIDNAPPING: 2 ARRESTED

Police last night arrested two men in connection with the kidnapping of a 40 year old resident of Sun Village, Shataukok on April 10.

The man, who was abducted from his home by three armed men was held to ransom for \$10,000. He was kept captive in a pill-box, but managed to escape. However, he was robbed of \$4,000, a watch and a ring.

ARMED ROBBERY
Another armed robbery was carried out last night. Nine men, armed with three revolvers, broke in three houses in Sheung Tung village, Tsunwan, and robbed the inmates of clothing, money and jewellery to the total value of \$1,000.

They broke into the houses about 10 o'clock last night and did not leave until 2.30 this morning.

Hut Used As Food Factory

For keeping a food factory in a hut on Third Street, without a licence, Lam Kun, 28, was sentenced to three months by Mr d'Almeida at Central this morning.

Inspector Browning stated that defendant had been warned twice against operating the shop without a licence, but did not heed the warning.

Sentencing defendant, his Worship said that the health authorities were trying to keep the health figures down and it was people like defendant who were doing these things to spread disease.

CAUGHT WITH OPIUM

A fine of \$2,200 or three months was imposed by Mr d'Almeida at Central this morning on Li Loong, 50, crew member of the ss Tji-lan-ka, which arrived in Hongkong yesterday, for possession of 22 taels of raw opium and an opium pipe.

Ro Redman said the drug and the pipe were concealed under the floor boards of a store, the key to which was in charge of defendant.

Defendant pleading for leniency said he had since lost his job.

ROAD SENSE . (12)

Whatever his intentions may be, the driver of this car is wrongly placed. He is monopolising the roadway.

PAULA BY DENNIS WHEATLEY



Rita Vane's stand-in, Cherry, takes the 'poisoned' cake and collapses, as called for in the film script

Government Refuses To Renew Dairy Farm's Pokfulam Leases

Search For Alternative Sites In The New Territories

That Government has definitely stated that the Dairy Farm Lots at Pokfulam will not be renewed after expiry at the end of 1956, was reported by the Chairman, Mr N. O. C. Marsh, at the Annual General Meeting of the Dairy Farm, Ice and Cold Storage Co., Ltd., held in the Company's Office, Windsor House, this morning. He added that the selection of an alternative site had led the Manager and Farm technicians all over the New Territories. Following an exhaustive survey the views of Government in regard to two possible sites had been sought, but so far no replies had been received.

The Chairman also reported that the year's trading constituted a record in the history of the Company. During the year there had been a widening and expanding of the Company's activities in the Colony, and several branches and establishments were re-habilitated and re-opened. In addition, arrangements had practically been completed, whereby the ground floor of the new Telephone Company building in Kowloon would be rented to the Company, and this would provide greatly improved shopping facilities to Kowloon residents.

With regard to the expenditure on Stock, the Chairman said that it would be much greater this year. They would be landing in the next day or two 107 head of pedigree cows and bulls from Canada and these alone would cost close on \$300,000. In addition, a further 30 head were in shipment from Australia by the ss Nankin.

The Accounts are presented in the form instituted last year with the addition that comparative figures for the previous year are now shown in the Profit and Loss and Appropriation Accounts as well as in the Balance Sheet—a feature which I believe will be appreciated by shareholders.

At our last Annual Meeting a record turnover was reported. The figure I am pleased to say was exceeded in 1947.

Despite the increase in turnover the profit on Working Account shows a decrease of approximately \$300,000 which is due to lower operating margins in all branches of the Company's business.

One cannot of course widen or expand without capital outlay, which, this year, has been heavy, amounting to \$1,246,089 on Leasehold Land and Buildings, Plant, Machinery, Harbour Craft, Vehicles and Furnishings.

STOCK EXPENDITURE

It will be noted that Cattle Account has been increased to the extent of \$194,220 representing the cost of 61 imports, plus the rearing of young stock, less animals withdrawn from the herd by sale or death. I might here mention that the expenditure on Stock will be very much greater this year. We will be landing in the next day or two 107 head of pedigree cows and bulls from Canada and these alone will cost us close on \$300,000. In addition a further 30 head are in shipment from Australia by the ss Nankin.

The commitment of \$925,000 in respect of building contracts and for the purchase of plant does not by any means cover estimated capital expenditure for the year 1948; it merely represents the extent to which we were committed under contract at December 31, 1947, and does not, I may say, include the main capital project, namely the cold storage extension at East Point referred to from the Chair at the Extraordinary General Meeting in November last when the capital of the Company was increased. The work of re-habilitating the Company's plant and buildings still goes on and the cost thereof is being borne out of current profits.

Your Directors have granted a bonus equivalent to one month's salary and amounting in total to \$32,000 to those members of the Staff who did not receive a China New Year Bonus, and in view of the very satisfactory results of the year's trading I am sure you will approve of this action.

In the Profit and Loss Account the amount written off for Depreciation i.e. \$264,475 exceeds by some \$87,000 the corresponding figure in 1947. This is due to the increase in Capital Expenditure.

Your Directors have also considered it prudent to write-off amounts expended on Goodwill and improvements to those leased properties taken over during the year. I refer to the Gloucester Lounge, the Kiosk at Repulse Bay and the Shop premises at 64 Nathan Road the acquisition of which was recorded at the last Annual Meeting. While these charges might be written-off during the period of the respective leases, your Directors consider it advisable to do so now.

After making those charges to which I have just referred, the amount available in the Profit and Loss Account for the year is \$2,435,000 which includes the sum of \$126,744 brought forward from last year's account. Your Directors recommend that that amount be dealt with as follows:

Pay a Dividend of \$2.50 per share free of tax on 293,335 shares, \$733,337; Pay a Bonus of \$1.50 per share free of tax on 293,335 shares, \$440,003; Make provision for Taxation and Contingencies \$550,000; Transfer to Chinese Staff Superannuation Account, \$30,000; Transfer to Reserve for War Losses, \$75; Transfer to General Reserve, \$500,000; Carry Forward to the next account \$181,593.

There are two items of the foregoing recommendations to which special reference is necessary. These are for Taxation and Contingencies and for transfer to General Reserve.

With regard to Taxation and Contingencies I would say that the sum of \$550,000 appropriated last year was for the purpose of taking care of Corporation Profits Tax, Property Tax and the possibility of our being called upon to pay interest on our overdrawn Bank Account at December 25, 1947. So far the sum appropriated has been reduced by \$8,305 only—and this was in respect of Property Tax payments. We expect the final details of the 1947/48 Assessment for Corporation Profits Tax which is based on our profits for the previous year to be agreed shortly with the Inland Revenue Department.

As you know draft legislation has been published regarding payment of interest on overdrawn Bank Account at December 25, 1947. The sum of \$550,000 appropriated last year remains virtually intact but must be so retained until we know exactly how much we shall have to pay in respect of the charges for which that sum was appropriated. During the year the balance at blocked account appearing in our last Balance Sheet and representing the amount of the Company's bank overdraft at December 25, 1947, was repaid.

ESTIMATED LIABILITY

Turning now to the fresh appropriation of \$550,000 made in the Accounts under review, this is intended to cover our estimated liability for Corporation Profits Tax on our profits for the year 1947 and leave a surplus available for a matter which was under consideration by the Directors at the outbreak of the Pacific War. I refer to the question of placing the Staff Provident Fund and the Chinese Staff Superannuation Fund on a more satisfactory basis and of formulating some form of Superannuation Scheme for the benefit of the local non-Chinese Staff. Your Directors are strongly of the opinion that the present is the right time to do this and we feel sure you will agree that a step of this nature is desirable. It is hoped that the surplus of the appropriation remaining, after providing fully for taxation, will take care of any charge the Company may be called upon to meet in this connection when all necessary decisions as to type and operation of the Staff Funds referred to have eventually been reached. Incidentally, the Company's Chinese employees now number 1,000.

The second item, namely General Reserve, to which it is proposed to transfer \$500,000, is linked with a matter which has engaged the earnest attention of your Board and Management since re-occupation of the Colony. The matter is one affecting the Company's leased lands

at Pokfulam. Having regard to the fact the leases on lands designated as Dairy Farm Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 are due to expire at the end of 1956 it was considered desirable to ascertain Government's intentions in the matter of renewing these leases. Government has definitely stated that the leases will not be renewed. The selection of an alternative site has led your Manager and Farm technicians all over the New Territories and following an exhaustive survey the views of Government in regard to two possible sites have been sought—but so far no reply has been received.

TWO OTHER LEASES

I think you should know that in addition to Dairy Farm Lots 1 and 4 the Company has two further lots on lease at Pokfulam, these are Farm Lot No. 71 of 0.05 acres and R.L.L. No. 331 of 12.338 acres. In the first case the Lease expires in 1952 and in the second in 2008. That is as much as I am able to tell you at present in regard to the matter of Farm Lot Leases. With the position such as it is I trust the transfer of \$500,000 to General Reserve has your full approval, against future development requirements.

Turning again to the Balance Sheet you will observe that the figure for Authorised Capital is entered in accordance with the resolution passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held on November 21 last.

The response to the offer of new shares in the Company authorised at that meeting has been very satisfactory. Share Certificates in respect of that issue are now being prepared and Allotment Letters will be sent to Interested Shareholders as soon as possible. I would take this opportunity to remind those Shareholders who have not yet done so that they should produce their Certificates to the Company for verification. Dividend Warrants will be issued to them after their Certificates have been verified. The number of Certificates not yet produced is represented by the small figure of 1.6 percent of the total shares issued.

In the Cattle Wastage Account there is a favourable balance of \$77,473 and this is the amount by which the charge to Working Account, calculated at the percentages which have been in operation since 1934 and credited to the Wastage Account, exceeds the figure of actual losses throughout the year.

CURRENT ASSETS

In Current Assets the Items of Stock and Sundry Debtors show considerable increases over the corresponding figures for the previous year. As regards the first of these, the lifting of import restrictions on certain commodities has made it necessary for the Company to carry additional stocks on its own account.

The figure for Sundry Debtors is a normal one by current monthly standards and reflects the increase in the Company's business. You will observe that since the closing of the Company's books the balance of our claims in respect of stocks requisitioned in 1941 has been paid.

During the year the amount due from Government and H.M. Services was crystallised resulting in a further charge to War Losses, this was offset by amounts received from customers resulting in a further net debit to War Losses Account of \$76 and bringing the balance of the account to \$2,476,901. The corresponding provision has been increased accordingly. Your Directors feel justified in carrying forward the

balance on War Losses Account until such time as there is some pronouncement regarding Reparation Claims.

I think I have dealt fairly comprehensively with the Accounts but before closing my remarks I should like to refer briefly to one or two matters which I think will be of interest to Shareholders.

RECORD TRADING

I mentioned at the outset that this year's trading constituted a record in the history of the Company. I will not burden you with details as I am sure you have already seen evidence of the widening and expanding of the Company's activities in the Colony. I might mention, however, that during the year under review the following branches and establishments were re-habilitated and re-opened—Peak Branch, Kowloon Branch at 64 Nathan Road, Tin Kau Road House, Gloucester Lounge, Kai Tak Buffet, Soda Fountain Restaurants at Salisbury Road and Pokfulam, Kiosks (2) at Repulse Bay.

You may have noted from a recent Press report in connection with the new Telephone Company Building in Kowloon that arrangements were in hand whereby the ground floor of that building will be rented to a firm of caterers. The firm referred to is this Company and I am pleased to report that the arrangements mentioned are practically completed. I think you will agree that this is a sound move since it will provide greatly improved shopping facilities to Kowloon residents.

Our latest development is at Shek-O where an area of land has been rented and on which a sectional wooden hut 70' x 20' has been erected. This will provide an amenity hitherto lacking at Shek-O and help to popularise the beaches there to an even greater extent.

With these remarks I now formally propose that the Report and Accounts as presented be adopted and when this has been seconded I shall endeavour to answer to the best of my ability any questions which Shareholders may wish to ask.

SECONDER'S SPEECH

Rising to second the motion, Mr D. L. Strellett, said:

I rise with a sense of privilege as well as responsibility to second the proposal of the Chairman for the adoption of the Report and Accounts.

I wish first of all to thank him personally for the very lucid and comprehensive survey which he has given us of the Company's activities for the year ending December 31, 1947.

In regard to the accounts, it is significant of the desire of the Company to meet public demands and act in a spirit of public service that the working profit is in fact lower this year in spite of an increase in turnover, as a result of a policy of reducing actual profit margins wherever possible.

The capital, as we know, has been increased considerably and the programme of expansion for which this capital has been secured can only be described as impressive.

The Board appears to have been in no difficulty in providing for the building schemes, the increase and replenishment of pedigree stock as well as the important project of cold storage extension, all of which represent some of the earlier plans envisaged by the Company in the course of its re-habilitating.

The Company further appears to be well secured by appropriations for Profit Tax and contingencies and we note that ample margins have been left where liabilities still await to be established by assessment or legislation.

There are two special matters affecting finance on which I feel sure the shareholders desire to express their endorsement of the policy of the Board.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF

The first of these is the proposal to reserve any surplus of the appropriation for estimated Corporation Tax towards the establishment of the staff Provident Fund and the Chinese Superannuation Fund on level which will give the Company's staff that sense of security which I am sure we all feel they have amply earned.

SHOWING TO-DAY KING'S At 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

"Let's get things straight about you and me and him..."

GLENN FORD

Framed

JANIS CARTER · BARRY SULLIVAN
EDGAR BUCHANAN
KAREN MORLEY · JIM BANNON

Screenplay by Sam Madden
Directed by RICHARD WALLACE
Produced by JULES SCHENBER

ALSO LATEST 20TH CENTURY-FOX MOVIE TONE NEWS
First pictures of Berlin tension. U.S. and Britain take action to counteract Soviet Move. Italian pro-election campaign. Democracy or Dictatorship. Exclusive pictures of tornado havoc in Oklahoma. Latest fashions for slenderizing waist line, etc., etc.

LEE THEATRE

ADVANCE BOOKING OFFICE—ST. FRANCIS HOTEL
BOOKING HOURS: 11.00 A.M. TO 5.30 P.M. DAILY

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

PUT A BIG-TIME GIRL IN A SMALL TOWN and there's bound to be a scandal!

NEKO FILMS presents

GEORGE RAFT WHISTLE STOP

AVA GARDNER
JOHN HUGHES, JR. and CONWAY

VICTOR MACHIN in another great performance and another great role

ALSO LATEST GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS

"THE GRAND NATIONAL RACE"

ORIENTAL

COMMENCING TO-DAY: 2.30—5.15—7.20—9.20 P.M.

ON TO FORBIDDEN LOVE AND DEATHLESS GLORY!

His steel struck sparks that fired women's hearts

LARRY PARKS The Swordsman

ELLEN DREW
GEORGE MACKAY · EDGAR BUCHANAN · RAY COLLINS · MARC PLATT

It is not too early for both financial and technical questions to be explored.

We welcome the extension of the Company's catering and retail business, and in regard to the former, it may well be that, within measurable distance of time, the facilities afforded by this Company and the standards of catering which it has established will become ubiquitous throughout the Colony and, possibly, further abroad.

In congratulating the Board, Management and Staff for the past year's work, I beg to second the adoption of the Report and Accounts. This was carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

It was proposed by Mr N. V. A. Gregory, and carried unanimously, that Messrs Percy Smith & Co. be re-elected Auditors for the ensuing year at a remuneration of \$10,000.

Present at the meeting were: Mr N. O. C. Marsh (Chairman), Dr the Hon. S. N. Chau, Messrs R. Gordon, P. S. Cassidy, R. K. Valentine

(Directors), J. D. Thomson (Manager), and G. Milne (Secretary), and the following shareholders: Miss M. I. de Figueiredo, Major C. W. L. Way, Messrs P. Loureiro, D. L. Strellett, S. Hampden Ross, N. V. A. Croucher, S. M. Churn, Mr Lal, E. S. Abraham, C. L. Gregory, Mr Nemazee, A. Tse, and C. I. Stapleton.

FOR YOUR SPARE MOMENTS

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"If she refuses to eat her strained carrots and spinach, the doctor says it would do you a world of good to eat it yourself!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

The Smother Play Saves 6-Club Bid

BY WILLIAM E. McKENNEY

♠ 885	♠ 885	♠ 885	♠ 885
♥ 10753	♥ 10753	♥ 10753	♥ 10753
♦ 306	♦ 306	♦ 306	♦ 306
♣ 10	♣ 10	♣ 10	♣ 10

♠ 885	♠ 885	♠ 885	♠ 885
♥ 10753	♥ 10753	♥ 10753	♥ 10753
♦ 306	♦ 306	♦ 306	♦ 306
♣ 10	♣ 10	♣ 10	♣ 10

ABOUT once a year I publish a series of articles on the smother play, one of the most fascinating few smother plays have been presented to me.

It came as a surprise, therefore, to receive a letter from John Harvey Jr. of Lexington, Ky., with today's hand. Harvey said he played it in a rubber bridge game.

You will note that with South the declarer at six clubs, if East refuses to put up his club king, he never should lose it, should he? Declarer can lead dummy's queen of clubs, and if East does not cover, he can lead a small club, with the king, cash the ace of clubs, and the king will still be good in the East hand.

The smother play is one which smotherers East out of his king of clubs. Here is the way Harvey played it.

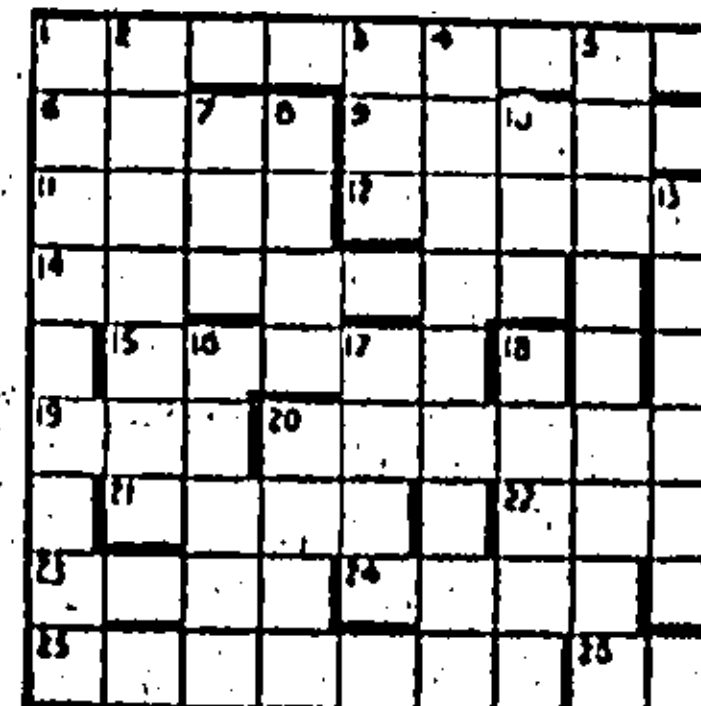
He opened the opening lead in dummy with the ace of diamonds, then led the queen of clubs. East did not cover. A small club was played and the finessing of the jack taken.

When West showed out Harvey decided to try the smother play. He cashed the ace and king of spades and trumped a small diamond in dummy with the six of clubs. Hoping for a break in the heart suit, he cashed the three heart tricks, then followed with the king of diamonds and followed with the five of diamonds, which West won.

At this point West was left with the ten of hearts and jack of diamonds, North with the nine and eight of clubs, East with the king and seven of clubs, South with the ten of spades and ace of clubs.

No matter what West led, North would trump with the eight of clubs. If East overtrumped with the king, Harvey would win with the ace of clubs and the last trick would be won in dummy with the nine of clubs. If East undertrumped with the seven, Harvey would discard the ten of spades. Thus East was smothered out of his king of clubs.

CROSSWORD



1. Often told you when you were young. (4)
2. The player of... was for... (Longfellow). (4)
3. Once. (3)
4. Reformed liar. (4)
5. South African animal. (4)
6. Vault. (3)
7. Not good for swine. (3)

Check Your Knowledge

- When did the twentieth century begin?
- The lack of what vitamin causes rickets?
- Name the two British sister ships that are named for queens.
- Whose death was caused by drinking a cup of hemlock?
- Name the oldest form of gambling.
- In Irish and Scottish folklore what does the wailing of a banshee denote?

(Answers on Column 5)

DUMB BELLS

REGISTERED U.S. PATENT OFFICE

I WANT TO TALK TO "H" FOR MR. H. SMITH

"H" FOR HIPPOPOTAMUS

"H" FOR HERBERT!

"H" FOR HERBERT!

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YOUR BIRTHDAY

By STELLA

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

BORN today, you are one of those who can be all things to all people. In other words, you take your lead from your associates, for your own personal adaptability is so high that you are able to accommodate yourself to almost any situation easily. This can be a great asset if used properly, or a terrific handicap if you become a human weather-vane, turning in any direction, aimlessly, according to how the wind is blowing.

You are quite psychic and seem to know what is going to happen before it occurs. Naturally, your intuitions are keen and, in addition, you are a quick judge of human nature. You are inclined to pigeon-hole individuals on first sight, and there they will always remain as far as you are concerned. It might be well for you to realize that even you can make an error in judgment and it takes a very intelligent person to admit it—and start off anew. In this direction often lie the biggest successes.

Talented in the arts, you might select any one of a number of careers: music, literature or dramatic acting. You would also do well in politics if you were permitted to have your head in matters of importance. You would never be a strictly party-line man, however, for you are too much an individualist. You could do well in business if you found something to interest you. Money seems to come your way, but you are not one to stick to a dull job even if you could make a million. First of all, you want to be delivered from routine and boredom—and, when it comes to business, that is a hard kind of job to find!

You demand considerably from those you love but are ready to reciprocate in kind. Your marriage should be a good one.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

ARIES (Mar. 22-Apr. 20)—Social problems may loom more important than you might wish but, be cautious, and all will go well with you.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Wind up the week's business advantageously. Make up for any lost time. Get in some good hot jobs now.

GEMINI (May 22-June 22)—Job decisions may need to be made so be calm can avoid an over-bloated or excited attitude. Keep a level head.

CANCER (June 23-July 23)—A good day to finish off some important business and pick up your earnings. Even personal, romantic affairs look promising.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Think before you act or sign any important document. He who does not hesitate today may lose!

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 22)—Minor changes appear to be reopening some previously closed doors. An improvement is getting under way. Act now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—Facts and figures, not vague promises, should guide your decisions. Don't push ahead too hard but don't backstep, either.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Your health is important, so protect it. Be diplomatic with co-workers, especially those of the opposite sex.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—Take your time over important matters today. Be cautious in all expenditures; handle employment problems tactfully.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—This is a good day for your efforts so push ahead firmly with decision. Salesmanship counts now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—If you are conservative, you will be able to make definite progress although it may appear slower than you might wish.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 21)—Follow up yesterday's business advantages and get your feet firmly on upward path. Act decisively.

AROUND THE WORLD:

Curacao: an Interesting Island

By TEMPLE MANNING

ONE by one again, the names of erstwhile favorite ports of call for the tourist appear in the news. Now it is Curacao, star of the Netherlands West Indies that is winning new friends as she welcomes old admirers.

The Netherlands West Indies is an interesting set of islands, one group belonging to the Leeward Islands, made up of Curacao, Aruba and Bonaire. The smaller group, the Windward Islands, includes St. Eustatius and St. Martin, belongs to the Windward Islands.

Willemstad, the capital and chief port of Curacao, used to be a shopper's delight, but we must wait for reports of friends on a cruise to see what conditions are in these happy times. But we will wager that its charm is intact, for this is really a delightful spot, clean, salubrious, tidy, vastly different from the majority of places in the West Indies.

The town is spread along the waterfront and has what seems to be a canal running through the center. The canal is really a channel, St. Annabach, leading from the sea through the town, to a huge landlocked basin. A picturesque pontoon bridge which is swung across the channel opens at the call of a ship's whistle.

Willemstad is guarded by two forts, so near each other that soldiers can exchange gossip across the separating water. To the right is the principal business section, the Pictorial, on the left is Ottrabanda. The third section, back of the business section is Schario.

What makes Willemstad so enchanting is that it is just like a bit of Holland set down in the blue Caribbean. The delicately-tinted houses with red-tiled roofs have the curving eaves, the tiny peaks and gables that bespeak Dutch architecture. The spooling streets and the canals with their quaint bridges further suggest Holland.

Running parallel with the channel, one block in, is Heeren Straat, and crossing it at right angles, beginning with the pontoon bridge, is Breede Straat, both big shopping streets and both old hands at grappling with the swarms of tourists that used to crowd the stores when a cruise ship dropped anchor. South of Breede is the plaza around which the administration buildings are centered. Breede Straat is really impressive with its banks, big mercantile buildings and those shops,



Playing golf at a country club in Curacao.

the shops that used to carry merchandise from every corner of the globe.

Paralleling the seashore is Pictorial Boulevard lined with imposing residences, impressive buildings, churches of various faiths, including a fine old Jewish house of worship that dates back to 1732. There are good restaurants, smart cafes, clubs and such, and some really good country clubs.

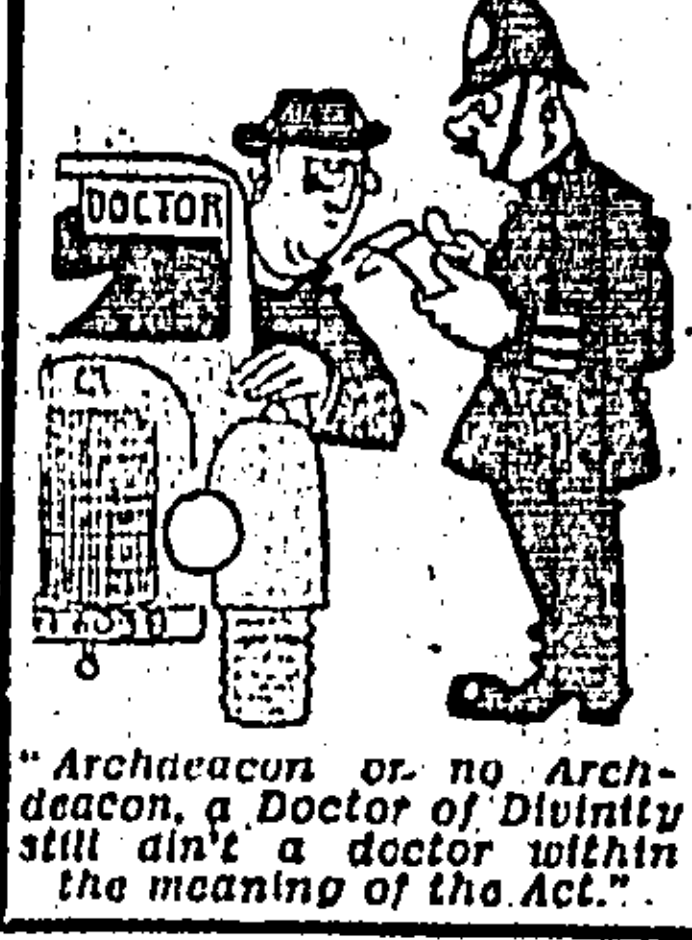
The older parts of the city are interesting. Balconies of houses almost meet above the narrow streets and there are frontless shops where the merchandise flows into the streets. Within walking distance there are some nice bathing beaches, and there are cafes and restaurants at the water's edge. But always for the visitor, at least, there is shopping to do. And we believe that report will be that things are fast coming back to normal for this, Curacao's greatest attraction.



"Now, Jerry, there, started off with two million bucks, and worked it down to a shoestring."

POCKET CARTOON

by OSBERT LANCASTER



"Archaeus or, no Archadon, Doctor of Divinity still ain't a doctor within the meaning of the Act."

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

A TIDAL wave of anticunilism, relentless as the great maelstrom or bore of Caudebec, is forcing up the price of ferrets to heights beyond the sweetest dreams of avarice.

Strange men, dressed as squires, creep up to lonely ferret-farms after dusk and cupping their hands about their mouths, whisper their offers to some titling ferret-maid or other. "Hey, my dear! What would your boss say to £12 4s. 3d. for a full-grown milk-fed Derby Grey?"

Thoroughbreds from my ferretery at Bottleburst, while being exercised, are often watched by suspicious-looking characters, and I have given orders to my head man, Crawford, to get them in early for the night. They are milked at 5.30.

"Beauty draws us with a single lion"

The trouble in Piccadilly began when some men tried to climb Eros. (News item.)

ART knows no frontiers, as the Aman said when he declared a stolen Rembrandt at Harwich. There cannot be much wrong with a country in which the love of art is so strong that police are needed to protect statues from the exuberant admiration of the populace. In 1929 a woman was with difficulty dissuaded from climbing one of Landseer's lions in Trafalgar Square. "I wanted to pat the little love," she said tenderly.

Acknowledgment

MY thanks to the many people who have sent me lately quotations about the man in the wickerwork hat. Not a single one of these little poems was written in the obscure and formless fashion of today, which leads me to hope that historians and critics of the future will date the return of sanity in poetry to the Era of the Wickerwork Hat School.

Mimsie Slopconner

MIMSIE SLOPCONNER is to be Miss Snook-Sausage 1948 in the Nether Slekken Pageant of Nutrition Intake. She will pose on a farm-cart, dressed as Queen Boadicea, surrounded by Human Snook-Sausages-in-Waiting. It is hoped that a Cabinet Minister may wind up the pageant with a short address on carbohydrates as a body-fuel for personnel. Mimsie's mother said: "I do so think nutrition intake has come to stay, and I am proud to see my daughter helping the Government."

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers

1. January 1, 1901. 2. Vitamin D.
3. "Queen Elizabeth" and "Queen Mary." 4. Socrates. 5. Dice. 6. Death.

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

London Gilt-Edged Market Spurt

London, Apr. 14.—The gilt-edged market, after seesawing throughout the day, spurted towards the close today and generally showed gains. Old Consols being up 3/8ths at 75 1/2 and two nationalisation stocks up 1/4.

H.K. STOCK MARKET

On the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning, transactions totalled \$241,000 in value. Business done during the morning session and noon quotations are as follows:

during the morning session and noon			
transactions are as follows:			
SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES			
BANKS			
HSK Bank	2030	139	10 @ 2040
East Asia	139	139	6 @ 140
INSURANCES			
Canton	300	410	40 @ 700
Union	300	410	40 @ 700
Underwriters	300	410	40 @ 700
HSK Fire	200	310	40 @ 700
DOCKS, ETC.			
C. K. Wharf (O)	160	30	10 @ 140
Dock	30	30	10 @ 140
President	22 1/2	22 1/2	10 @ 140
S'land Dock	17 1/2	17 1/2	10 @ 140
AND, ETC.			
HSK Land	110	1700	10 @ 140
HSK Land	62	50	6 @ 140
HSK Land	31 1/2	0	50 @ 140
HSK Land	25	25	50 @ 140
TRAM			
Yamat	22 1/2	23	400 @ 22 1/2
Yamat	22 1/2	23	400 @ 22 1/2
C. Light (O)	23 1/2	140	1000 @ 23 1/2
C. Light (N)	19 1/2	210	100 @ 19 1/2
C. Light (S)	19 1/2	210	100 @ 19 1/2
Telephone (O)	44	300	40 @ 50
INDUSTRIALS			
Cement	42 1/2	500	40 @ 41
Rope	21	21	40 @ 41
TOBACCO, ETC.			
Dairy (O)	55	55	40 @ 41
Wilson	50	50	40 @ 41
(R. Rts.)	50	50	40 @ 41
TOWNS			
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(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
TOWNS			
Wilson	20 1/2	500	40 @ 20
(R. Rts.)	20 1/2		

